

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9523

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRN, JA

SUBJ: CIVAIR: 1974 CHARTER QUOTA FOR SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS

REF: A) STATE 13598 B) TOKYO 347

SUMMARY. US SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS WILL BE PERMITTED TO OPERATE
TEN CHARTER FREQUENCIES IN JAN-MAR 1974, ALL ORIGINATING IN JAPAN.
END SUMMARY.

1.E/COUN DISCUSSED CHARTER QUOTA PROBLEM WITH FUKIDA, HEAD FIRST
NORTH AMERICA DIV, FONOFF, ON JAN 23. E/COUNS REFERRED TO HIS
LETTER OF JAN 10 REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ALL FLIGHTS CONTRACTED
BY SUPPLEMENTALS FOR OPERATION IN FIRST QUARTER 1974 AND NOTED
THAT EARLY RESPONSE WAS NEEDED SINCE FIRST FLIGHT WAS SCHEDULED
TO LEAVE TOKYO ON FEB 3.

2. WITH RESPECT TO WORLD AIRWAYS' PROGRAM E/COUNS NOTED THAT
IN LINE WITH JCAB'S REQUEST OF NOV 20, 1973, AIRLINE HAD SOUGHT
TO CANCEL LAST TWO TRIPS BUT WAS BEING HELD TO ORIGINAL CONTRACT
BY JAPANESE CHARTERERS. CONCERNING SINGLE ROUND TRIP FLIGHT CON-
TRACTED BY TRANS INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO
LEAVE TOKYO ON MAR 21 AND RETURN IN APRIL,

E/COUNS SAID THAT JCAB
HAD SUGGESTED POSTPONEMENT OF DEPARTURE UNTIL SECOND QUARTER
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BUT CARRIER HAD NOT FOUND THIS PRACTICABLE SINCE TRIP WAS CHARTERED

ON BEHALF OF GROUP OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND SCHEDULED TO COINCIDE WITH SCHOOL VACATION PERIOD. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND SINCE TOTAL NUMBER OF FREQUENCIES (12 1/2) SO SMALL, E/COUNS SAID HE DID NOT THINK IT UNREASONABLE TO ASK GOJ TO PERMIT ALL FLIGHTS TO OPERATE.

3. FUKADA REITERATED BACKGROUND (SEE REFTTEL B) OF GOJ DECISIONS REFLECTED IN HIS LETTER OF DEC 27. HE ADDED THAT JCAB, IN CONNECTION WITH ITS LETTER OF NOV 20, HAD ASKED ALL INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS TO SUPPLY COPIES OF CHARTER CONTRACTS SIGNED BEFORE NOV 20. SINCE NEITHER WORLD NOR TIA RESPONDED TO THIS REQUEST, JCAB HAD BEEN SURPRISED TO LEARN IN JANUARY THAT SUCH CONTRACTS IN FACT HAD BEEN CONCLUDED BY SUPPLEMENTALS AND EVEN MORE SURPRISED THAT ALL CONTRACTS CALLED FOR JAPAN-ORIGIN TRIPS. NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID JCAB HAD SINCE ACCEPTED EXPLANATION OFFERED BY WORLD AIRWAYS' TOKYO OFFICE THAT IT HAD NOT RECEIVED COPIES OF CONTRACTS FROM HEAD OFFICE UNTIL JAN 4 AND (WHILE EXPLANATION BY TIA STILL AWAITED) HE THOUGHT JCAB WOULD AGREE TO REVERSAL OF DECEMBER DECISION TO BAN JAPAN-ORIGIN CHARTERS IN FIRST QUARTER. HE ASSERTED, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAD QUOTE NO REASON TO BE OPTIMISTIC UNQUOTE THAT JCAB WOULD AGREE TO AUTHORIZE SUPPLEMENTALS TO OPERATE MORE THAN TEN FREQUENCIES IN THE QUARTER. IN THAT CONNECTION, HE SAID RESPONSES BY OTHER AIRLINES TO NOV 20 REQUEST INDICATED THAT OUT OF 49 CHARTER TRIPS CONTRACTED 20 HAD BEEN SUBSEQUENTLY CANCELLED. THEREFORE, JCAB DID NOT BELIEVE CANCELLATION OF ONE OR TWO TRIPS BY U.S. SUPPLEMENTALS WOULD BE UNREASONABLE. E/COUNS RESPONDED THAT SITUATION OF SUPPLEMENTALS BY NO MEANS COMPARABLE TO THAT OF SCHEDULED AIRLINES BECAUSE SUPPLEMENTALS ALREADY OPERATING UNDER SEVERE LIMITATION OF ANNUAL QUOTA, WHICH WAS NOW BEING COMPOUNDED BY IMPOSITION OF MINIMAL QUOTA FOR FIRST QUARTER 1974. FUKADA SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER WITH JCAB IN LIGHT OF E/COUNS' REPRESENTATION.

4. ON JAN 25 FONOFF TOLD EMBASSY THAT JCAB WOULD NOT CHANGE ITS POSITION RE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS AND THAT FINAL GOJ DECISION ON FIRST QUARTER QUOTA WOULD THEREFORE BE AS INDICATED ABOVE, I.E. SUPPLEMENTALS WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE 10 OF THE 12 1/2 JAPAN-ORIGIN FREQUENCIES CONTRACTED. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT WORLD AIRWAYS (AT EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION) WILL SEEK AUTHORIZATION FROM JCAB TO OPERATE REMAINING TRIPS CONTRACTED FOR FIRST QUARTER BY QTE BORROWING UNQTE AGAINST QUOTA FOR REST OF YEAR. SHOESMITH

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